

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. – 4. (cancelled)

5. (currently amended) An integrity testing in a system for leak-tightness testing systems, which are adapted in turn for determining or testing whether a canister cannister, or other sealed, hollow body, filled with a liquid or gas under pressure is leaky, where such leak-tightness testing systems employ system-employs creation of a vacuum in a vacuum chamber chambers and any change in pressure within the vacuum chamber is monitored, the integrity testing system comprising improvement which comprises placing a test body (20) adapted to removably absorb a defined amount of moistness, and the in the vacuum chamber (30) of the leak-tightness testing system, wherein at least a portion of the test body is exposed to the vacuum chamber, whereby moisture is removed from the test body when a vacuum is generated in the vacuum chamber, the removed moisture producing a pressure increase in the vacuum chamber over a pre-determined time span a defined amount of moistness is supplied to the test body (20) in advance and increase in pressure is measured in the vacuum chamber (30).

6. (currently amended) The integrity testing system apparatus as recited in claim 5, wherein the test body (20) comprises polyamide of defined size of surface.

7. (currently amended) The integrity testing system apparatus as recited in claim 5 6, wherein the test body comprises polyoxymethylene (POM).

8. (new) The integrity testing system of claim 5, wherein the pressure increase is a pre-specified pressure increase when the vacuum chamber is leak-tight.

9. (new) The integrity testing system as recited in claim 8, wherein the pre-specified pressure increase simulates the amount of leakage that would be just acceptable from a leak-tight hollow body to be tested in the vacuum chamber.

10. (new) The integrity testing system of claim 5, wherein the vacuum chamber is not leak-tight when the pressure increase exceeds a pre-specified pressure increase.

11. (new) The integrity testing system as recited in claim 10, wherein the pre-specified pressure increase simulates the amount of leakage that would be just acceptable from a leak-tight hollow body to be tested in the vacuum chamber.

12. (new) The integrity testing system as recited in claim 5, wherein the test body is adapted to absorb a defined amount of moistness from the ambient atmosphere before being placed in the vacuum chamber.

13. (new) The integrity testing system as recited in claim 5, wherein the test body can be re-used.

14. (new) A process for the integrity testing of leak-tightness testing systems, which leak-tightness testing systems in turn test whether a canister or other sealed, hollow body is leak-tight, the process comprising:

providing a test body, wherein a defined amount of moistness is supplied to the test body in advance;

placing the test body in a vacuum chamber of a leak-tightness testing system;

generating a vacuum around the test body in the vacuum chamber, wherein moisture is removed from the test body, and wherein a pressure increase is produced in the vacuum chamber by the moisture removed from the test body;

measuring the pressure increase in the vacuum chamber over a pre-determined time span to determine if the leak-tightness testing system is leak-tight.

15. (new) The process of claim 14, wherein the pressure increase is a pre-specified pressure increase when the leak-tightness testing system is leak-tight.

16. (new) The process of claim 15, wherein the pre-specified pressure increase simulates the amount of leakage that would be just acceptable from a leak-tight hollow body to be tested in the leak-tightness testing system.

17. (new) The process of claim 14, wherein the leak-tightness testing system is not leak-tight when the pressure increase exceeds a pre-specified pressure increase.

18. (new) The process of claim 17, wherein the pre-specified pressure increase simulates the amount of leakage that would be just acceptable from a leak-tight hollow body to be tested in the vacuum chamber.

19. (new) The process of claim 14, wherein the test body is adapted to absorb a defined amount of moistness from the ambient atmosphere before being placed in the vacuum chamber.

20. (new) The process of claim 14, wherein the test body can be re-used.

21. (new) The process of claim 14, wherein the test body comprises polyamide.

22. (new) The process of claim 14, wherein the test body comprises polyoxymethylene (POM).